

03500.017564



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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: E. Lee
MOTOKAZU KOBAYASHI ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2815
Application No.: 10/662,472	)	
	:	
Filed: September 16, 2003	)	
	:	
For: PIEZOELECTRIC ELEMENT, INK	)	
JET RECORDING HEAD AND	:	
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING	)	
PIEZOELECTRIC ELEMENT	:	October 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION-OF-SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2004, which sets forth a restriction requirement and an election-of-species requirement, Applicants hereby elect for prosecution on the merits Group I (Claims 1-5 and 11) and Species V (page 26, lines 8-12 (Embodiment 5)). Applicants submit that Claims 1-5 and 11 read on the elected species.

Applicants further submit that at least independent Claims 1, 5 and 11 are generic. As explained in the specification, e.g., in Table 1 (page 29) and at page 18, line 14 - page 19, line 21, in all of the species (embodiments), the contact interface does not exist and the region of mixed crystals exists, as recited in independent Claims 1, 5 and 11. In addition, in all of the

species, the sandwiching feature recited in independent Claims 1, 5 and 11 obtains, as shown, e.g., throughout the figures. Further, the perovskite oxide limitation (independent Claims 1 and 5) obtains in all of the species, as shown, e.g., in Table 1 and page 29, lines 3-7 (see also, e.g., page 10, lines 16ff, page 13, lines 19ff, and page 21, lines 6ff). Finally, the features of Claim 5 not mentioned above are also seen to be generic, from the descriptions of the embodiments, which define the species.

Applicants also respectfully traverse the election-of-species requirement. A careful review of the specification reveals that the various species are closely related and would not require separate fields of search. Accordingly, neither Applicant nor the Patent and Trademark Office should be put to the trouble and expense entailed in multiple filing and prosecution. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the public at large should not be required to obtain and study separate patent documents in order to have available all of the issued patent claims covering the invention.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. Office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Douglas W. Pinsky", is written over a horizontal line.

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